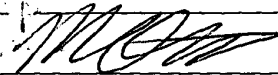


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M.L.

Atty Dkt. No.: IRVN-007CON

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE			
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231			
Typed or Printed Name	Mathew Otts	Express Mail No.	EL 563 650 743 US
Signature		Date	November 13, 2000
<b>PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</b>  Address to: Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231		Attorney Docket	IRVN-007CON (UC 96-367-5)
		First Named Inventor	Gatanaga, et al.
		Application Number	N/A
		Filing Date	Herewith
		Group Art Unit	N/A
		Examiner Name	N/A
		Title	Factors Affecting Tumor Necrosis Factor Receptor Releasing Enzyme Activity

Sir:

Prior to the examination on the merits of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows.

### AMENDMENTS

#### In the Specification:

On page 1, line 5, after "pending", insert ~~and~~ of International Application No.

A1 PCT/US99/10793, filed May 14, 1999--.

On page 1, line 6, delete "application is" and insert therefore --applications are--.

On page 1, line 6, delete "its" and insert therefore --their--.

#### In The Claims:

Cancel claims 1-36 without prejudice.

Add the following new claims:

P1.12.6 -- ~~37~~ (New) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence expressed at the mRNA level in human mononuclear leukocytes having cell-surface TNF receptor, thereby increasing cleavage and release of the receptor from the surface of the cell.